

REMARKS

This paper is a preliminary amendment in the above-identified application, filed herewith as a continuation application of United States Patent Application No. 10/792,125 filed on March 3, 2004 which is a continuation application of International Application No. PCT/AT02/00195, filed on July 5, 2002, published in German as International Publication No. WO 03/031100 on April 17, 2003, which claims priority to Austrian Patent Application No. A1585/2001, filed October 8, 2001.

Claims 1-16, and 18-21 are pending. Claims 1-16 have been amended to place the claims in U.S. format. The subject matter of claim 17 has been presented in claims 18-21 and thus claim 17 has been cancelled.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa B. Kole', written over a horizontal line.

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